

Nutrient Reduction Team Review of First Year Successes

*Governors’ Action Plan
Implementation and Integration Workshop*

St. Petersburg, FL

July 10, 2007

Reducing Nutrient Inputs

Nutrient Team Leads

- **State Leads** Kim Caviness & Natalie Guedon (MDEQ)
- **Alabama** Lynn Sisk (ADEM)
- **Florida** Charles Kovach & Steve Wolfe (FDEP)
- **Louisiana** Dugan Sabins & Kris Pintado (LDEQ)
- **Texas** Sidne Tiemann (TCEQ) & George Guillen (University of Houston at Clear Lake)

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Nutrient Team Facilitators

- **EPA/GMPO** Lael Butler
- **NOAA** Laurie Rounds

Workshops and Conferences

- December 2006 Decentralized Wastewater Conference
- January 2007 Nutrient Criteria Conference
- January 2007 Summit on Long-Term Monitoring of the Gulf of Mexico Hypoxic Zone
- March 2007 Ecological Impacts of Hypoxia Conference
- April 2007 Nutrients and Water Quality Team Planning Workshop
- July 2007 Monitoring Standardization Workshop
- July 2007 Understanding Nutrient Dynamics & Effects in the Gulf Workshop

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Decentralized Wastewater Conference

- State of science and technology transfer between state regulators and academia
- Followed by April field trip to operating “wastewater to wetlands” treatment plants in LA
- Actions to replicate conference throughout the Gulf and reach new stakeholders
- Follow-up meeting planned for July 2007

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Nutrient Criteria Conference

- 1st Nutrients Team Conference (50+ attendees)
- Water Quality Standards Short Course
- National, Regional, and State Nutrient Criteria Development Status and Needs
 - State Approaches to Numeric Nutrient Criteria Development
 - Chlorophyll a Sampling/Analysis Methodologies
 - Nutrient Parameters
 - Causal and effect variables
 - What are we collecting? What do we need to collect?
 - Modeling Inventory
 - States Identified List of Needs

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Summit on Long-Term Monitoring of the Gulf of Mexico Hypoxic Zone

- Resulted in a monitoring plan to:
 - Improve measurement of size of GOM hypoxic zone
 - Support further research on hypoxia causes and impacts
 - Advance development of a hypoxia observation system as part of IOOS and GCOOS

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Nutrient and Water Quality Team

Planning Workshop

- Increased collaboration between the 2 Alliance Teams
- Identified the Alliance Action Items which are joint and/or shared for both Teams
- Developed a steering committee for Monitoring Workshop to be held at the July GOMA Conference
- Agreed on initial steps of monitoring pilot

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Ecological Impacts of Hypoxia Conference

- Assessed current info using hypoxia effects on fish and shellfish populations to evaluate resource impacts of alternative management decisions
- Developed recommendations for applying management and scientific tools (e.g. indicators, predictive models) for quantifying, preventing, and mitigating the effects of hypoxia on fisheries
- Identified research priorities for advancing the state-of-knowledge on the ecological impacts of hypoxia

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Monitoring Priorities

- Increased collaboration between Nutrient and Water Quality Teams
 - Hold series of joint workshops with Nutrient and Water Quality Team members
 - Identify opportunities to standardize monitoring across the Gulf for a core set of nutrient and water quality parameters
 - Jointly inventory monitoring and modeling efforts
 - Identify gaps and needs to accomplish the Alliance goals
 - Work together on shared goals and combine limited resources



Nutrient Team Upcoming Priorities

- 15 of 17 action items are complete or on track
 - Get “back on track” and “stay on track”
- Continue to increase collaboration within the Gulf between the States other Alliance Teams when possible
 - Shared Team Meeting Time (Nutrients & WQ Teams)
 - Monitoring Parameters Standardization Workshop
 - Understanding Nutrient Dynamics & Effects in the Gulf Workshop
 - Proposed collaboration between the Nutrient Team and the Water Quality, Habitat ID, and Restoration Teams to assess Gulf watersheds

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Shared Team Meeting & Joint Workshops

Tuesday

July 10th

3:45 – 5:00 p.m.

Collaborative Actions with
Water Quality Team

Wednesday

July 11th

10:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Monitoring Standardization
Workshop

Thursday

July 12th

8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Nutrient Dynamics & Effects in
the Gulf Workshop



Contacts and More Information

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<http://www2.nos.noaa.gov/gomex/nutrients/welcome.html>